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TO: United States Patent and Trademark Office
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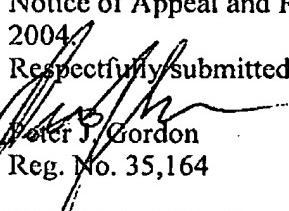
FROM: Peter J. Gordon
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FAX: 978-851-7216

DATE: December 22, 2004

NUMBER OF PAGES (including cover sheet): 7

RE: USSN 09/054,933; Attorney Docket No. A1998017

Transmitted herewith for filing in the above application is a Transmittal Letter,
Notice of Appeal and Reply to the Final Office Action mailed September 22,
2004.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter J. Gordon
Reg. No. 35,164

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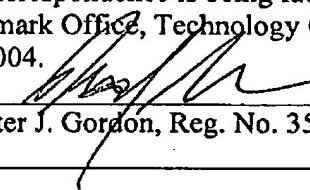
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No: 09/054,933 Confirmation No.: 3289
Applicant: Craig R. Frink
Filed: April 3, 1998
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ACCESSING VIDEO
DATA IN MEMORY ACROSS FLOW-CONTROLLED
INTERCONNECTS

Art Unit: 2611
Examiner: Krista Kieu-Oanh Bui
Docket No.: A1998017
Customer No.: 26643

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 7 C.F.R. §1.8

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Peter J. Gordon, Reg. No. 35,164

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

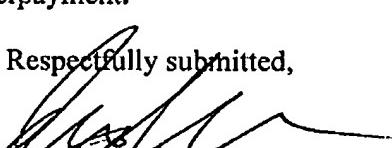
TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Transmitted herewith for filing in the above patent application is a Notice of Appeal and Reply to the Final Office Action mailed September 22, 2204.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-0876 in the amount of \$500.00 for the Notice of Appeal. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge said Deposit Account for any fees which may be required or credit any overpayment.

Dated: December 22, 2004

Respectfully submitted,



Peter J. Gordon
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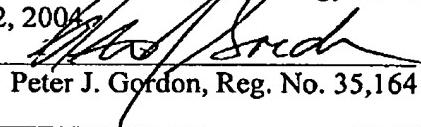
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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 7 C.F.R. §1.8

The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Technology Center 2600, Facsimile No. 703-872-9306, on December 22, 2004.


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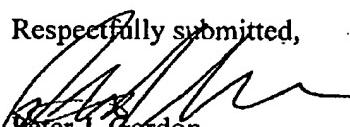
**NOTICE OF APPEAL FROM THE PRIMARY EXAMINER TO THE
BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES 37 CFR § 1.191**

Applicant hereby appeals to the Board from the Final Office Action of the Primary Examiner mailed on September 22, 2004, finally rejecting claims 1-4, 9 and 11.

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.17(b), the fee for filing the Notice of Appeal is \$500.00. Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-0876 the amount of \$500.00. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required or credit any overpayment to said Deposit Account.

Dated: December 22, 2004

Respectfully submitted,


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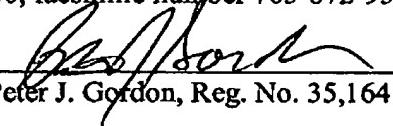
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No: 09/054,933 Confirmation No.: 3289
Applicant: Craig R. Frink
Filed: April 3, 1998
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ACCESSING VIDEO DATA IN
MEMORY ACROSS FLOW-CONTROLLED INTERCONNECTS

Art Unit: 2611
Examiner: Krista Kieu-Oanh Bui

Docket No.: A1998017
Customer No.: 26643

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Technology Center 2600, facsimile number 703-872-9306, on December 22, 2004.


Peter J. Gordon, Reg. No. 35,164

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY AFTER FINAL

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 22, 2004, the Applicant submits this Reply.

A Notice of Appeal accompanies this Reply.

Remarks begin on page 5, with a Conclusion on page 4.

Serial No. 09/054,933
Reply Filed: December 22, 2004

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed September 22, 2004, and in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks, reconsideration is requested. Claims 1-4, 9 and 11 remain in this application of which claim 1, 2, 3 and 9 are independent. Claims 5-8 and 10 were previously cancelled.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-4, 9 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 in view of U.S. Patent 5,760,794 ("Munson"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant will first address the comments on page 6 of the Office Action. The Examiner's responses to Applicant's prior arguments are erroneous in several respects.

First, in the prior Reply the Applicant amended the claims by adding the phrase "wherein the first, second and third inputs are in parallel" and argued that Munson failed to teach:

either "an input interface . . . wherein the first, second and third inputs are in parallel" (as recited in claims 2, 4 and 9) or an "output interface . . . wherein the first, second and third inputs are in parallel" (as recited in claims 1, 3, and 11). The three inputs and outputs communicate data (either command data or video data), a valid data signal and a valid command signal."

Thus, the claims were amended to recite limitations that were argued to be distinguishable over the prior art. Thus, the Examiner's allegation that the claims were amended "for making them appear to be a little more complex and different than the teaching of Munson's reference" is not only irrelevant, but baseless as well.

Second, the Examiner is comparing the subject matter on pages 5 and 6 of this application to the prior art instead of the claims. Whether one embodiment in the application discusses using a PCI bus ignores the fact that what the application is claiming is defined by the claims as currently amended.

Munson uses the PCI interface protocol for communication messages regarding data transfer. Munson fails to teach either "an input interface . . . wherein the first, second and third inputs are in parallel" (as recited in claims 2, 4 and 9) or an "output interface . . . wherein the first, second and third inputs are in parallel" (as recited in claims 1, 3, and 11). The three inputs

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Reply Filed: December 22, 2004

and outputs communicate data (either command data or video data), a valid data signal and a valid command signal.

In this final Office Action, it has been asserted that Munson teaches three inputs or outputs, as the case may be, (which communicate data (command data or video data), a valid data signal and a valid command signal) that are "in parallel" because (as stated on page 3 of the Office Action:

"as Figure 13 and 16 [of Munson] shows a Windows Manager 801 gathers information from memory 111 including windows handle list 804 regarding as command data signals for providing tasks to the Windows Manager in a parallel manner before transferring application data including video and valid data to Graphics Memory 113 for video processing and displaying them to the CRT 112 for the user (col. 26/lines 10-59 and col. 27/lines 10-58)."

It is not clear to the Applicant how the cited portion of Munson can be relevant because the portion of the Office Action cited above does not address the specific limitations of the claims. The Office Action appears to be asserting that the windows handle list 804 corresponds to the claimed "command data signals." The Office Action also appears to be asserting that application data transferred to a Graphics Memory 113 correspond to "video and valid data." Even if Munson's tasks are provided to a Window Manager in a parallel manner before transferring video data and valid data to a Graphics Memory, such an understanding of Munson is irrelevant to the claims. The claims require three parallel inputs or three parallel outputs, as the case may be, which communicate data (either command data or video data), a valid data signal and a valid command signal, respectively. The valid data signal indicates whether a signal on the data line is valid video data. The valid command signal indicates whether a signal on the data line is valid command data. These three signals are on three parallel input or outputs. See Applicant's Fig. 1 and corresponding description for a more complete explanation. Munson does not teach these limitations.

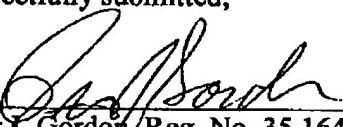
Serial No. 09/054,933
Reply Filed: December 22, 2004

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, this application should now be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after this Reply, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

If this Reply is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicants hereby request any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this Reply, including an extension fee, please charge any fee to **Deposit Account No. 50-0876**.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
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Date: December 22, 2004